

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2003-0117

AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
ORDER NO. 5-01-116

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,  
PORT OF SACRAMENTO, AND PORT OF STOCKTON  
SACRAMENTO DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING ACTIVITIES  
CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 43.4  
STOCKTON DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING ACTIVITIES  
CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 15.0  
CONTRA COSTA, SACRAMENTO, SAN JOAQUIN, SOLANO AND YOLO COUNTIES

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (hereafter Regional Board) finds:

1. On 11 May 2001, the Regional Board adopted General Order Waste Discharge Requirements (General Order) and Monitoring and Reporting Program Order No. 5-01-116, prescribing waste discharge requirements for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Port of Sacramento.
2. The maintenance dredging activities regulated in General Order No. 5-01-116 include disposal or discharge of dredge sediments into diked disposal sites on land, discharges of effluent from the Dredge Material Disposal (DMD) sites into surface water, pre-dredge sampling, and water quality monitoring during dredging operations.
3. In General Order No. 5-01-116, maintenance dredging was defined as maintenance of the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel to a depth of 30 feet (plus two-foot allowable overdredge) for navigation of ship traffic to the Port of Sacramento. Maintenance dredging also included a section of 35-foot depth from the Port of Sacramento at River Mile 43.4 to the western boundary of Region 5 near Collinville (approximately mile 0 of the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel). This resolution adds maintenance dredging of the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel, from River Mile 0.0 to 15.0.
4. The Sacramento River and San Joaquin River both discharge to Suisun Bay and are separated near their respective western boundaries by Sherman Island. The DMD site known as Augusto Pit for the Sacramento Channel is situated on Sherman Island.
5. General Order WDR Order No. 5-01-115 prescribes requirements for dredging of the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel, which is situated in the San Joaquin River. However, General Order WDR No.5-01-115 does not contain DMD sites for the western portion of the San Joaquin River. Previously, the Executive Officer was authorized to issue waivers of waste discharge requirements for dredging operations in accordance with Resolution 82-036. That resolution

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2003-0117

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PORT OF SACRAMENTO, AND PORT OF STOCKTON

SACRAMENTO DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING ACTIVITIES CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 43.4

STOCKTON DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING ACTIVITIES CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 15.0

CONTRA COSTA, SACRAMENTO, SAN JOAQUIN, SOLANO AND YOLO COUNTIES

did not place a numeric limit on the discharge amount. Effective 1 January 2003, all the old waivers expired. The Regional Board adopted a new waiver resolution in January 2003, and it includes a waiver category for minor dredging operations. However, the new waiver resolution restricts the size of projects eligible for coverage to those with a discharge less than 1,000 cubic yards of dredge materials.

6. Recent sedimentation in the San Joaquin River has created several shoals in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel near Sherman Island that present a potential hazard to ship navigation. In order to maintain ship navigation in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel, the identified shoals must be dredged. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' bathymetric survey indicates that more than 1,000 cubic yards of sediment needs to be dredged to remove the shoals.
7. In order to facilitate dredging operations in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers requested that General Order No. 5-01-116 be amended to allow the the DMD site known as Augusto Pit to accept dredge materials from both the Stockton and Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channels. The Port of Sacramento has requested that the time period for discharging dredge material from the San Joaquin River to the Augusto Pit be limited to the 2003 dredging season.
8. General Order Nos. 5-01-115 and 5-01-116 both prescribe requirements for maintenance dredging of ship channels and contain similar discharge and monitoring requirements. For each proposed dredging project, the Discharger must submit a Notice of Intent, which includes analysis of the sediments to be dredged. The Executive Officer only issues a Notice of Applicability for the project if the sediment will not impact water quality.
9. This resolution adds the Port of Stockton as an additional discharger to General Order WDR Order No. 5-01-116. For projects situated in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel, the Port of Stockton and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shall submit the Notices of Intent. For projects situated within the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel, the Port of Sacramento and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shall submit the Notices of Intent.
10. The beneficial uses of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta are municipal supply; domestic supply; agricultural irrigation; process; service supply; water contact recreation; noncontact water recreation; warm fresh water habitat; cold fresh water habitat; warm water migration; cold water migration; warm water spawning; wildlife habitat; and navigation.
11. The action to update General Order No. 5-01-116 is exempt from the provisions of the CEQA, in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 15301.
12. The Regional Board has notified the Discharger and interested parties of its intent to amend waste discharge requirements for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2003-0117

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PORT OF SACRAMENTO, AND PORT OF STOCKTON

SACRAMENTO DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING ACTIVITIES CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 43.4

STOCKTON DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING ACTIVITIES CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 15.0

CONTRA COSTA, SACRAMENTO, SAN JOAQUIN, SOLANO AND YOLO COUNTIES

13. The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.
14. This Order shall amend General Order Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 5-01-116, and shall take effect upon the date of hearing.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that General Order Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 5-01-116 is amended solely to include the Port of Stockton as a Discharger and to allow the discharge of sediment dredged from the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel, between San Joaquin River Mile 0.0 to River Mile 15.0, to the Augusto Pit situated on Sherman Island. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Port of Sacramento and the Port of Stockton, their agents, successors and assigns, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with Amended Order No. 5-01-116:

Page 1 Change, all references that specify the Dischargers, to read:  
United States Army Corps of Engineers, Port of Sacramento, and Port of Stockton

Page 1 Change all titles, headers and references, to read:  
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PORT OF SACRAMENTO, AND  
PORT OF STOCKTON  
SACRAMENTO DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING  
ACTIVITIES CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 43.4  
STOCKTON DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING  
ACTIVITIES CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 15.0  
CONTRA COSTA, SACRAMENTO, SAN JOAQUIN, SOLANO AND YOLO  
COUNTIES

Page 1 Insert New Finding No. 3, renumber all remaining findings and references, to read:  
On 11 May 2001, the Regional Board adopted General Order Waste Discharge Requirements and Monitoring and Reporting Program Order No. 5-01-115, prescribing waste discharge requirements for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Port of Stockton. Both General Order Nos. 5-01-115 and 5-01-116 prescribe requirements for maintenance dredging of ship channels and have similar discharge and monitoring requirements.

Page 1 Modified (New) Finding No. 4 to read:  
Under this General Order, maintenance dredging is defined as maintenance of the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel to a depth of 30 feet (plus two-foot allowable overdredge) for navigation of ship traffic to the Port of Sacramento and the maintenance of the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel to a 35-foot depth for the navigation of ship traffic to the Port of Stockton. Maintenance dredging also includes a section of 35-foot

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2003-0117

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PORT OF SACRAMENTO, AND PORT OF STOCKTON

SACRAMENTO DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING ACTIVITIES CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 43.4

STOCKTON DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING ACTIVITIES CHANNEL MILE 0.0 to 15.0

CONTRA COSTA, SACRAMENTO, SAN JOAQUIN, SOLANO AND YOLO COUNTIES

depth from the Port of Sacramento to River Mile (RM) 35, which was deepened in a previous project. This General Order is for maintenance dredging activities from the turning basin in the Port of Sacramento at River Mile 43.4, to the western boundary of Region 5 near Collinsville (approximately mile 0 of the Sacramento River's Deep Water Ship Channel) and the maintenance operation from Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel between San Joaquin River Mile 0.0 to River Mile 15.0. The material from the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel may be discharged to the DMD site on Sherman Island known as Augusto Pit, designated as S-20, for the period of time of July 2003 through December 2003 and upon receipt of a Notice of Applicability. See Attachment "A", incorporated herein and made part of this Order.

I, THOMAS R. PINKOS, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on 11 July 2003.

---

THOMAS R. PINKOS, Executive Officer